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Washington, D.C. – Congresswoman Betty McCollum (MN-04) will spend the Fourth of July holiday visiting the North Africa American Cemetery and Memorial in Tunisia to pay tribute to American troops, including 138 Minnesotans, who lost their lives in World War II in military activities ranging from North Africa to the Persian Gulf. Congresswoman McCollum will lay a wreath and present a flag to honor the sacrifice of the veterans.

"Minnesota's sons and daughters who sacrificed for our country are buried in hallowed ground all around the world and shall always be remembered. It is an honor for me to have the opportunity to pay tribute to these courageous men on behalf of Minnesotans and the nation," said Congresswoman McCollum.

Records show that 138 Minnesotans are buried at in the27-acre cemetery, which is part of the American Battle Monuments Commission, an agency of the Executive Branch. In total, over 2,800 of America's deceased soldiers are laid to rest there, where the Wall of the Missing lists 3,724 names. To view a full list of the names of these brave Minnesotans, go to http://www.abm c.gov/search/wwii_state.php (Choose North Africa American Cemetery).

Congresswoman Betty McCollum (MN-4) serves on the House Appropriations Subcommittee on State Department and Foreign Operations and the Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs. ###